

(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**  
(Case No. 99,252-A)

In re Application of:	)	
	)	
MERTENS, et al.	)	
	)	Group Art Unit: 1746
Serial No.: Not yet assigned	)	
	)	Examiner: Not yet assigned
Filed: November 1, 2001	)	
	)	
For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR	)	
REMOVING A LIQUID FROM A	)	
SURFACE	)	

6/13  
C.7.  
7/10/02

Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

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**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Dear Sir:

Please enter the following preliminary amendment in the above-referenced patent application.

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please cancel claims 2, 3, 7 and 17 without prejudice. Please amend claims 1, 12 and 13 as follows. A marked up version of the amended claims, to show all the changes, is attached hereto on pages separate from the amendment in accordance with 37 CFR 1.121(c)(1)(ii).

1. (Amended) A method of removing a liquid from at least one surface of at least one substrate comprising the steps of:

subjecting said substrate to a rotary movement

supplying a liquid on at least a part of said surface of said substrate; and

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